

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 were pending in the present application. Claims 1-21 were cancelled. Claims 22-37 were added. Accordingly, claims 22-37 are now pending in the application.

Claims 16-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that the Applicant regards as the invention. The Applicant has cancelled claims 16-21; thus, the Applicant believes the rejection to now be moot.

Claims 1-9, 11-19 and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by MacLeod et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,424,525) (hereinafter 'MacLeod'). The Applicant has cancelled claims 1-9, 11-19 and 21; thus, the Applicant believes the rejection to now be moot.

Claims 10 and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over MacLeod. The Applicant has cancelled claims 10 and 21; thus, the Applicant believes the rejection to now be moot.

The Applicant's claim 22 recites a computer system comprising:

“a primary chassis including a primary device disposed within the primary chassis, wherein the primary device includes a first bus coupled to a first electrical connector for conveying electrical signals;
a secondary chassis including a secondary device disposed within the secondary chassis, wherein the secondary device includes a second bus coupled to a second electrical connector for conveying the electrical signals;
wherein the first chassis and the second chassis are positioned substantially adjacent to one another; and
a bridge circuit board including a third connector and a fourth connector, wherein the bridge circuit board is positioned such that the third connector is detachably mated to the first connector and the second connector is detachably mated to the fourth connector, wherein the bridge circuit board further includes signal traces coupled to

provide an electrical signal interconnection between the first bus and the second bus.” (Emphasis added)

MacLeod is directed toward an external peripheral attachment device for use as a hub or computer, wherein MacLeod discloses at Col. 7, line 46 through Col. 8, line 4

“In FIG. 2, system 10 includes components so that it functions as a computer. Specifically, in this form of the invention, data/power interface 40 is provided to convey the data and power to external peripheral devices 50...”

In FIG. 3, system 10 is used as the hub for coupling external peripheral devices 50 to a conventional personal computer 60. The conventional personal computer again includes a CPU 62, a power supply 64, and a memory 66. It also includes an appropriate data interface 68 for coupling in data communication with the hub provided by system 10. A video driver 70 will likely be included in personal computer 60 for driving display 52. The hub of system 10 again includes data/power interface 40 that is adapted to couple to each of external peripheral devices 50, both supplying them power and serving as an interface with personal computer 60 for convey data therebetween.”

From the foregoing, it is clear that in MacLeod’s computer system arrangement, there are not two chassis interconnected by a bridge circuit board. In addition, in MacLeod’s hub arrangement MacLeod is silent as to the positioning of each chassis. Accordingly, the Applicant submits that MacLeod does not teach or disclose “wherein the first chassis and the second chassis are positioned substantially adjacent to one another” or “a bridge circuit board ..., wherein the bridge circuit board is positioned such that the third connector is detachably mated to the first connector and the second connector is detachably mated to the fourth connector, wherein the bridge circuit board further includes signal traces coupled to provide an electrical signal interconnection between the first bus and the second bus” as recited in the Applicant’s claim 22.

Thus, the Applicant respectfully submits that claim 22, along with its dependent claims, patentably distinguishes over MacLeod for the reasons given above.

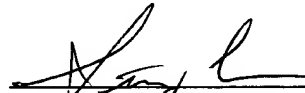
Claim 33 recites features similar to claim 22. Accordingly, the Applicant believes claim 33, along with its dependent claims, to patentably distinguish over MacLeod for at least the reasons given above.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits the application is in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is requested.

If any fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert, & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account No. 501505/5681-48500/BNK.

Respectfully submitted,



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